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TAGS: PHUM ICRC PREF PREL EI
SUBJECT: IRELAND TO SIGN "RED CRYSTAL" PROTOCOL

REF: A. SECSTATE 95184

¶B. DUBLIN 470

On June 15, emboff delivered reftel points to Irish Department of Foreign Affairs UN/Terrorism and Illicit Drugs section First Secretary Brian Cahalane. Cahalane confirmed that the GOI will sign the Third Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions at the June 20-21 International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. He added that the U.S. can expect Ireland's support in updating the Statutes of Movement and in opposing any Conference adjournment. Cahalane noted that the Irish Red Cross Society will also likely vote in favor of the amendments to the Statutes but he added that the GOI is reluctant to directly approach the Society's members because of its status as an independent agency. When pressed about delivering a statement on the need to focus attention on the primacy of humanitarian issues in this forum he replied that the EU will be issuing a joint statement and the GOI would likely not be issuing one separately.

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